

GREAT CHESTERFORD C. OF E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 15th 2017

Dear Parents,

Spirit of Christmas:

Our Year 5 and 6 choir attended the annual Spirit of Christmas Service in St Mary's Church on Saturday evening. It is always a wonderful festive event and the children who attended were a credit to the school; they performed two carols beautifully and participated with energy and enthusiasm in the rest of the service. Special thanks must go to Mrs Taylor for her continued support in accompanying the choir and Mrs Middleton in teaching the children.

We were thrilled with the success of several Great Chesterford pupils in the Compose a Carol competition. They were: Leah Flowers & Liz Thatcher Crespo with Commended; Rhona Tealby-Watson & Millie Curtin, Maria Abascal & Emily Law all with Highly Commended and Edward Taylor was awarded Third place - congratulations to you all!



All Saints' Carol Service:

Thank you to the Year 5 and 6 pupils who performed at All Saints' Church Carol Service on Sunday 10th December. For several pupils this was their consecutive performance of the weekend and even the snow did not deter their commitment. Their contribution at this village event was truly appreciated and thank you to Mrs Witney for supporting the children at this service.

Christmas plays:

Thank you Key Stage One and Lower Key Stage Two for entertaining all with your Christmas plays: 'Christmas with the Aliens' and 'Silent Night'. These wonderful performances reflected all the hard work put in by both the children and staff. I think it was clear to all that the children thoroughly enjoyed their moment in the spotlight!

Mrs Sharon Dyster:

I would like to formally welcome Mrs Sharon Dyster to Great Chesterford. She is employed by our Multi Academy Trust working on finance, health and safety and other centralised services. Mrs Dyster was previously based at Debden Primary Academy but we are now locating centralised service staff together at Great Chesterford.

Nut and sesame food products

Please can I remind parents that we are a nut free school and items such as seeds, pine nuts, sesame and houmuos should not be brought into school for break or in packed lunch boxes - thank you for your support. We do have a number of children in school with food allergies and our policy is to safeguard against anyone eating or coming into contact with known allergens.

Headlice

There have been quite a few cases of headlice within school this half term. Please can we ask parents to check their children's hair regularly. Can we also remind parents that girls should have their tied up for school where it is long enough to do so - thank you.

Key Stage One Morning Arrangements

The building works are progressing well and Reception Class will be in their new classroom from Monday 18th December! Please can all Key Stage One children revert to normal practice and be dropped at the Infant Playground from 8.45am. At the end of the day all children are released from the Junior Playground - thank you.

School Pianos

We now have two super instruments on which to accompany children and for individual lessons. Our new hall piano has kindly been donated by Mr and Mrs Van Kooten Townsend and has already been well used and greatly appreciated during last week's Christmas plays. With Mrs Janet's Wheelers tenacious support we have also purchased a good quality piano for our music room. Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Van Kooten Townsend, Ms Wheeler and Pretloves in helping us with this musical project.

Christmas Corner:**Christmas Postbox**

The last date for using the school Christmas post box is Monday 18th December. Each envelope needs the child's full name and class number to ensure our Year 6 postal team are able to deliver it to the correct pupil.

Christmas Jumpers:

All children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school on Tuesday 19th December. Please do not feel any special purchase should be made - any festive colour such as red and green would be welcome.

Festive skipping

Our Sports Leaders will be running a fun festive skipping activity on the morning of Tuesday 19th December in the playground.

Christmas parties:

Christmas parties will be taking place on the afternoon of Tuesday 19th December.

Christmas Service:

Our end of term service will take place on Wednesday 20th December at All Saints Church, Great Chesterford at 9.30am and everyone is most welcome to join us. This service will be led by Years 5 and 6.

May I take this opportunity to wish all the children, staff, governors and our families a wonderful Christmas and Best Wishes for a happy and healthy 2018!

Mrs Sarah Mitchell
Headteacher

Attachments:

All Saints' Church Christingle Service

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
19th December	Christmas lunch
19th December	Christmas parties
20th December	Christmas Church Service Last day of term
3rd January	Non-pupil day
4th January	Pupils return to school
5th January	Class 1 Pantomime Trip
29th January - 2nd February	Computing Theme Week
30th January	Parents' Consultation 3:45-6:15pm
31st January	Parents' Consultation 5:30-8:00pm
1st February	Class 2 Trip to Pizza Express
12th-16th February	Half term
26th February-2nd March	Book Week
15th March	Class 6 Trip to the Botanic Gardens
21st March	Open Afternoon - focus on building developments
29th March	Easter Service at All Saints' Church
16th April	Non pupil day
17th April	Pupils return to school
14th-18th April	Year 6 SATs Week
21st May	Open Morning - sharing success
22nd May	Music Evening 6.30pm
28th May-1st June	Half term
4th -8th June	Science Week
3rd July	Years 5 and 6 Summer Play
4th July	Years 5 and 6 Summer Play
6th July	Transition afternoon tbc
9th July	Transition afternoon tbc
10th July	Reception Class Open Evening 4pm
11th July	Open Evening 6-8pm (All classes)
12th July	Sports Day
13th July	Year 6 Memories Assembly

Date	Event
13th July	Reserve Sports Day
15th-18th July	Year 6 Residential
20th July	Leavers' Church Service Last day of term
20th July	Year 6 Entertainment
23rd July	Non-pupil day

The full list of dates for the whole academic year can be found on the calendar on our school website.